

DEF. DOC. #1095

DECLARATION OF THE JAPANESE GOVERNMENT ON

JULY 11, 1937.

The Japanese forces garrisoned in North China always maintained a calm and patient attitude toward a series of anti-Japanese outbursts in North China. But unfortunately on the night of July 7 an inevitable clash occurred when the Japanese troops were wantonly fired upon by soldiers of the 29th Army, which had been cooperating with our forces in maintaining peace and order in that region. As the consequence, the atmosphere in the Peiping and Tientsin districts grew so tense that even the lives and property of Japanese nationals were endangered. However, the Japanese authorities made earnest endeavours to localize and prevent the affair from becoming further aggravated, and succeeded in bringing the 29th Army Authorities to agree to a peaceful settlement.

On the night of July 10, however, the 29th Army, in violation of the agreement, suddenly fired upon the Japanese troops causing considerable casualties. Besides, China has since pushed on warlike preparations by increasing her forces on the first line, by ordering the Chinese troops at Siyuan to advance southward, and also ordering the Central Government troops to the front. China has not only failed to manifest any sincerity to seek a peaceful solution, but has gone the length of flatly rejecting all of Japan's offers for amicable settlement at Peiping, leaving no room for doubt that the present incident has been brought about as the result of well-planned armed operations against Japan.

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There is no need of dwelling on the vital importance to Japan and Manchoukuo of the maintenance of peace and order in North China. What is most urgently needed is that the Chinese not only apologize for the most recent lawless actions and manifestations of antagonism and opposition to Japan, but give adequate guarantee against the recurrence of such outrages in the future.

An important decision has been reached by the Japanese Government at today's Cabinet meeting to take all necessary measures for despatching military forces to North China.

, But, desirous as ever of preserving the peace of East Asia, the Japanese Government has not abandoned its hope that negotiations may yet effect non-aggravation of the situation, and that prompt reconsideration on the part of China may bring about an amicable solution. As regards the safeguarding of the rights and interests of the Powers in China, the Japanese Government is, of course, prepared to give full consideration.

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C E R T I F I C A T E

Statement of Source and Authenticity

I, HAYASHI, Kaoru, Chief of the Archives Section, Japanese Foreign Office, hereby certify that the document hereto attached in English consisting of 2 pages and entitled "Declaration of the Japanese Government on July 11, 1937" is an exact and true copy of an official document of the Japanese Foreign Office.

Certified at Tokyo,

on this 8th day of April, 1947.

(signed) K. HAYASHI
Signature of Official

Witness: (signed) G. URABE

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帝國政府第一次聲明 一九三七年七月十一日

相續ク支那側ノ侮日行爲ニ對シ支那駐屯軍ハ隱忍靜觀中ノ處從來我ト提携シテ北支ノ治安ニ任シアリシヲ二十九軍ノ七月七日夜半蘆溝橋附近ニ於ケル不法射撃ニ端ヲ發シ該軍ト衝突ノ已ムナキニ至レリ爲ニ平津方面ノ情勢逼迫シ我在習民ハ正ニ危殆ニ瀕スルニ至リシニ我方ハ和平解決ノ望ヲ棄テス事件不續大方針ニ其ノ局地的解決ニ努力シ一旦二十九軍備ニ於テ和平的解決ヲ承諾シタルニ不伺突如七月十日夜ニ至リ彼ハ不法ニ更ニ我ヲ増軍シ且て我軍ニ相當ノ砲火ヲ生スルニ至ラシメ而テ類ニ爲一線ノ兵力ヲ増加シ更ニ西支ノ部隊ヲ召遣セシメ中央軍ニ出動ラスル等武力的準備ヲ進ムルト其ニ平和的交渉ニ目スルノ誠意ナク遂ニ北平ニ於ケル交渉ヲ全面的ニ拒否スルニ至レリ以上ノ事實ニ鑑ミ今次事件ハ全ク支那側ノ計畫的武力抗日ナルコト最早疑ノ餘地ナシ

思フニ北支治安ノ維持ハ帝國及諸國ニトリ緊急ノ事タルハ茲ニ警告ヲ爲シ及サル處ニシテ支那側ヲ不法行爲ハ勿論併日侮日行爲ニ對スル謝罪ヲ爲シ及今後斯カル行爲ナラシムル爲ノ適當ナル保障ヲナスコトハ東亞ノ平和維

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持上候メテ緊要ナリ仍テ政府ハ本日ノ協議ニ於テ重大決意ヲ爲シ北支派兵
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ノ圓滿ナル解決ヲ希望ス又列國權益ノ保全ニ對テハ固ヨリ十分之ヲ考得ル
ントスルモノナリ

Ref Doc #10715-

文部省ノ出所竝ニ成立ニ付スル説明書
自分 林 護香ハ外務省文書課長ノ職ニ居ル者ナル處、茲ニ添付セラレタ
ル日本語ニ依ツテ行ハレ貳頁ニ成ル帝國政府第一六三七。七。一
日本政府「外務省」ノ保管ニ係ル公文書ノ正確ニシテ眞實ナル爲シナ
ルコトヲ證明ス

昭和二十二年四月八日 於東京

林

護香

右署名捺印ハ自分ノ西前ニ於テ爲サレタリ

同日於同所

立會人 堀部 勝馬